

Dear Connecticut Education Committee,

I'm am strongly against SB1105. Specifically to the language that states ""including, but not limited to, persons employed as psychologists, speech therapists and positions requiring certification pursuant to section 10-145b with an endorsement in special education," . This wording opens the door that would allow people who do not have a background in ABA to provide those services. In order to safely and effectively implement ABA programming, one must have the knowledge and skills sets in this area, as is the case for all professions. If a student has ABA programming on their IEP, a family has every right to expect that someone with expertise in THAT area is the one providing those services.

If, on the other hand, Speech services, OT services, Special Education services or any other type of services are sufficient, then put those services on the IEP and don't include ABA services as a requirement for that student. It would be a breach of the IEP for Speech services, OT services or Special Educational Services to be provided by a professional who is certified in different field (i.e., not an SLP or OT). So I'm finding it hard to understand why anyone would feel that it makes sense to make this okay in the practice of ABA. If it is felt that a student will benefit from ABA programming, then the programming should be provided by a Behavior Analyst, if you don't think they need a Behavior Analyst, then don't claim they are getting ABA programming.

The practice of allowing some to say they are providing a professional service in a any field in which they are qualified is laughable, I'm dumbfounded that is even being considered in the field of Behavior Analysis.

If you have any questions or would like to contact me directly please call me at (203) 910-0992.

Sincerely,

*Megan McCarron, MS., BCBA*

Director of Training and Support Services

Connecticut Center for Child Development, Inc.

Phone: (203) 910-0992

Fax: (904) 432-8464